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POLICY

UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical co-operation activities for 1989 comprises four parts. The first, in the present document, describes actions taken by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) of the United Nations Secretariat in response to Governing Council decision 89/50 of 30 June 1989. It provides an update on the present division of labour between DTCD and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and on the new and pragmatic approaches devised to increase both DTCD support and training in "process" aspects of technical co-operation to national execution. Of particular importance in 1989 was the emphasis on the multi-disciplinary programme of DTCD in Africa; the efforts made to deliver services through non-traditional modalities and to simplify procedures pertaining to all aspects of programme and project formulation and execution; and the establishment of a data bank of project results.

Addendum 1 of the Secretary-General's report provides descriptive information on the technical co-operation programme of DTCD. Activities of other entities in the Secretariat are contained in addendum 2, and statistical tables are included in addendum 3.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In response to Governing Council decision 79/22 of 28 June 1979 and General Assembly resolution 37/232 of 20 December 1982, the Secretary-General reports annually on the technical co-operation activities of the United Nations, in particular the work of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) of the United Nations Secretariat. The current report addresses policy issues raised by the Governing Council at its thirty-sixth session, and highlighted in its decision 89/50 of 30 June 1989, that pertain to the Department as the main operational arm of the Secretariat in technical co-operation. A description of the Department's activities is contained in addendum 1 to the present report; information on the work of other entities in the Secretariat is provided in addendum 2; and statistical information is given in addendum 3 (DP/1990/56/Add.1-3).

II. OVERVIEW

2. The year 1989 was particularly challenging for the Department. As it advanced into the closing decade of the twentieth century, DTCD delivered the largest programme in its history. It was also an active participant in the reviews taking place within the United Nations system on major aspects of multilateral technical co-operation. While recognizing the value of past achievements, such exercises signaled the need for further improvement; the DTCD programmes reflected a will to modify traditional modes of operation in response to changing needs. Greater emphasis on simplifying processes, and expanding collaboration with other organizations, within and outside the system, enabled DTCD to broaden, in a responsible and responsive manner, the scope of its work in the service of developing countries.

3. Highlights of the work of DTCD in 1989 include the following:

(a) The first large-scale project funded by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) in integrated rural development - including crop substitution and diversification of employment opportunities - to facilitate the elimination of opium poppy cultivation;

(b) Statistical work in Namibia to obtain preliminary estimates of population and gross domestic product (GDP), as a basis for establishing a tentative indicative planning figure (IPF);

(c) Collaboration with the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) to assist countries of the region in evaluating their potential for certain key minerals and related products;

(d) Development of a rigorous and recognized methodology for assessing the size and cost of the civil service throughout Africa;

(e) Assistance in financial planning and management to requesting African countries, as part of a co-ordinated package of technical co-operation in macro-economic planning and management;

(f) A more integrated approach to the provision of technical advisory services cutting across discrete sectors, including, for example, a development planning and management information system for the public sector, to improve linkages between national planning and investment programming;

(g) Progress in building up investment advisory services, and significant results achieved in promoting major investment projects; collaboration with an international chamber of commerce in Brazil on a seminar which addressed the legal, financial and financing aspects of joint ventures as a tool for channelling foreign investment;

(h) Establishment of a focal point on environment within DTCD to ensure that its operational activities take due account of all relevant environmental factors, particularly in the fields of natural resources and energy;

(i) Authorization to undertake management services at the request of Member States; the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) to revise financial rules for operational activities (patterned after those of UNDP);

(j) Support, at the request of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), to a substantial number of least developed countries in the preparation of their national economic memoranda for submission to the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Paris in September 1990;

(k) Stepped-up preparations, in 71 countries, for the 1990 round of population and housing censuses;

(l) A joint initiative with the United Nations Office at Vienna leading to an interregional meeting on corruption in Government, which called for significant administrative reforms of a structural nature in the public service.

4. Developments in Eastern Europe last year prompted DTCD and other bodies within the United Nations system to review ongoing programmes in countries such as Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Romania, in order to estimate the level of possible technical co-operation requirements in coming years. DTCD also participated in inter-agency efforts to ascertain the parameters of a programme of basic needs in Cambodia, and to define the outline of reconstruction programmes for Iran and Iraq. Staff in the Department took part over the summer in the integrated country reviews organized by the Director-General. The triennial comprehensive review of operational activities, which culminated in the adoption of General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989, together with the studies that will be considered by the Governing Council at its thirty-seventh session, encouraged DTCD to explore beyond the normal confines of its technical co-operation programmes. At the request of some Governments, the Department forged ahead in providing technical support on a multisectoral and sectoral basis, and in testing new approaches. Action-oriented research assumed greater importance, as did the preparation of computer-based training packages. Greater numbers of workshops and seminars were organized to try out new concepts and to facilitate the dissemination of information and exchange of experience.

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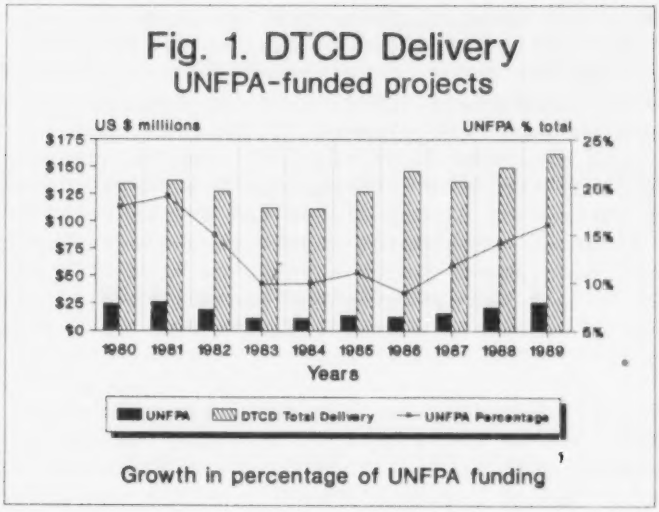
5. Human resources development - institution building, training, transfer of technology - remained the centrepiece of nearly all the DTCD activities in 15 substantive fields, aimed at strengthening the national capacities of developing countries. The year 1989 saw a noticeable increase in government requests for support related, directly or indirectly, to the utilization of loans financed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), this in recognition of the Department's objective stand on sensitive issues of policy, also in view of the fact that IPF funds often serve as seed money for projects which are subsequently linked to large-scale, loan-supported activities. Financial planning and management became an important element of the programme, as developing countries wrestled with problems of foreign debt and balance of payments. Competition as a means of improving the performance of public enterprises was discussed at the Ninth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance. Developing countries concerned with the social cost of structural adjustment programmes sought assistance from DTCD in formulating more balanced medium- and longer-term strategies. Social development policies - on issues such as disability, and to a lesser extent aging and youth - received special consideration.

6. A global campaign to rehabilitate out-dated electric power stations was initiated during 1989, and an interregional training centre for energy planning and management was inaugurated in co-operation with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE). In all sectors, data collection and information management systems were essential components of the projects. Ecological and environmental considerations which should be factored in at various stages of the project cycle, also became more common features of projects executed by DTCD; countries saw the threat to development posed by environmental degradation, and recognized that the only safeguard to protect the environment was development itself - human resources, economic and social development. The DTCD specialists in water geared up to meet new challenges resulting from past inadequacies in the management of water resources development that have led to environmental degradation or to water shortages and conflicts over use.

III. PROGRAMME DELIVERY

7. The 1989 total delivery by DTCD rose to over $162 million in project expenditures, against budgets of $211 million. Thus, growth in delivery, both in actual terms and in percentages, persisted for the second year in a row, amounting to $13 million or nearly 9 per cent in 1989, in comparison with 1988. Expenditures for projects financed by UNDP rose by $7.1 million, accounting for 64 per cent of the total. A high rate of growth in funding by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) was also maintained in 1989, with an increase of approximately $6 million, or more than 29 per cent over 1988 (see figure 1 below), thereby offsetting a drop in United Nations trust funds. There was a reversal of the previous decline in UNDP trust funds which rose by nearly $1 million.



8. Natural resources and energy remained the single largest area of concentration by DTCD, and reversed the drop experienced in 1988 with an increase of 5 per cent, or over $3 million. Within the programme, an impressive growth of 26 per cent in the water sector served to counter the decline in energy, albeit from a smaller base. The minerals subsector continued to follow last year's positive trend and grew by 20 per cent. Statistics and population for the first time together comprised the second largest DTCD programme, advancing by over $7 million, or 23 per cent. The programme in public administration and finance also increased by nearly $3 million, or 12 per cent, while development planning activities increased by nearly $4 million, or 11 per cent, over 1988. In general, growth in the 1989 programme delivery of DTCD involved the broad area of human resources development, and revealed an increasing preoccupation with investment promotion and resources planning.

9. The breakdown of expenditures by component shows that most of the increase in the 1989 programme related to expenditures for personnel (largely short-term consultants) and equipment. Training retained the significant gains registered in the previous year. Expenditures for sub-contracts remained at the same level.

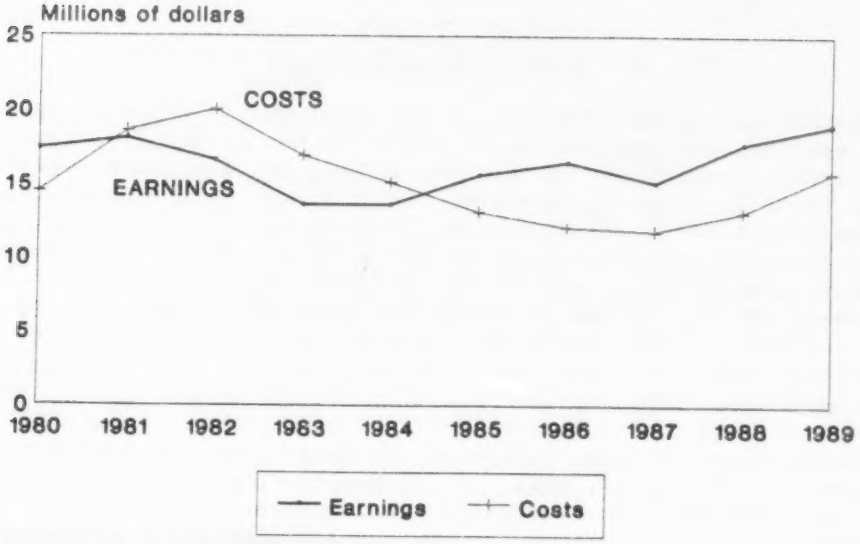
10. Full statistical details on the DTCD programme are given in addendum 3 to the present report (DP/1990/56/Add.3). As suggested by various Governments at the last three sessions of the Governing Council, that addendum includes graphs on trends in delivery, on the use of developing country resources and on the breakdown by gender of personnel recruitment and fellowships awards.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND EFFECTIVENESS

11. As indicated in figure 2 below, on the relationship between support cost (overhead) earnings and administrative costs for the period 1980-1989, DTCD reported a modest surplus in the overhead account for the fourth year in a row. It was able to do so by observing the same strict limits on administrative costs. Higher expenditures for staff were almost exclusively the result of increased allocations for post adjustment and education allowances, since there was practically no change in the number of staff assigned to the Department in 1989. Earlier reports of the Secretary-General had already noted that staff cuts effected four to five years ago had left DTCD with the minimum of posts needed to maintain a sound technical base. The Department has only recently been in a position to expand its technical capacities and to equip itself to meet the challenges set out in the resolutions of the General Assembly on operational activities. One approach followed to increase the Department's effectiveness was the introduction of micro-computers in day-to-day work - a process co-ordinated by a departmental working group. The additional expenditures incurred in 1989 for that purpose represented a long-term investment to improve administrative efficiency, and eventually to reduce staff workload in this area. Another approach was to use greater numbers of consultants, to enable the Department to maintain high quality technical backstopping, yet at the same time retain the flexibility needed to respond to constantly changing needs for high-level expertise. Hence, economies of scale were achieved with a steadily growing programme, and with only marginally higher costs as DTCD began to prepare for the future.

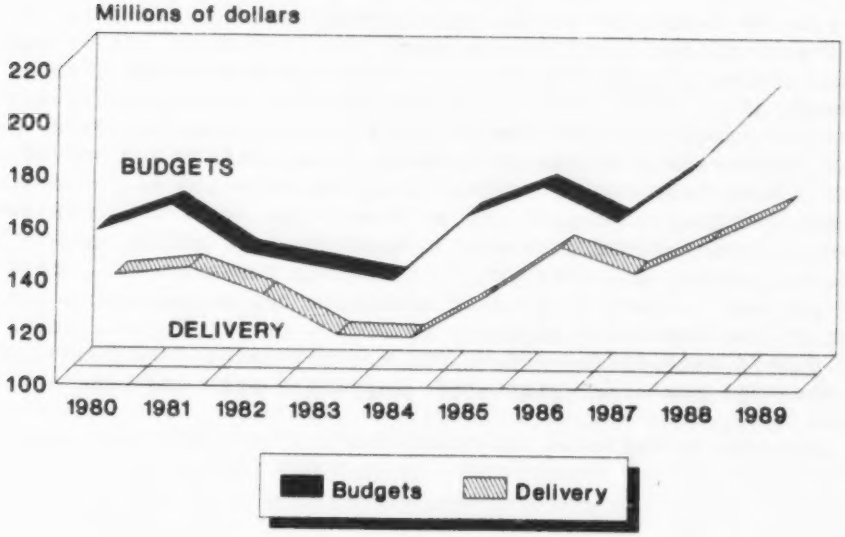
12. Figure 3 below demonstrates the relationship between the total project budgets of DTCD and its total delivery for the period 1980 to 1989. It is clear from figure 4 below, which compares project delivery and staff from 1982 to 1989, that the productivity of the DTCD staff last year was at its highest ever. The Department fully recognizes that the level of expenditures incurred should not, in and of itself, determine the effectiveness or even efficiency (productivity) of an organization. In the absence of another accepted methodology within the United Nations system, however, this provides at least some measure of the level of ongoing activity. Project budgets now on hand for 1990 should permit DTCD to maintain this record for one more year. Attention must be drawn, however, to the low level of project budgets at present available for subsequent years, and to the need to maintain the technical capacity of DTCD - preserving thereby a technical role for the United Nations in response to the new requirements of developing countries - when the new arrangements for support costs come into effect.

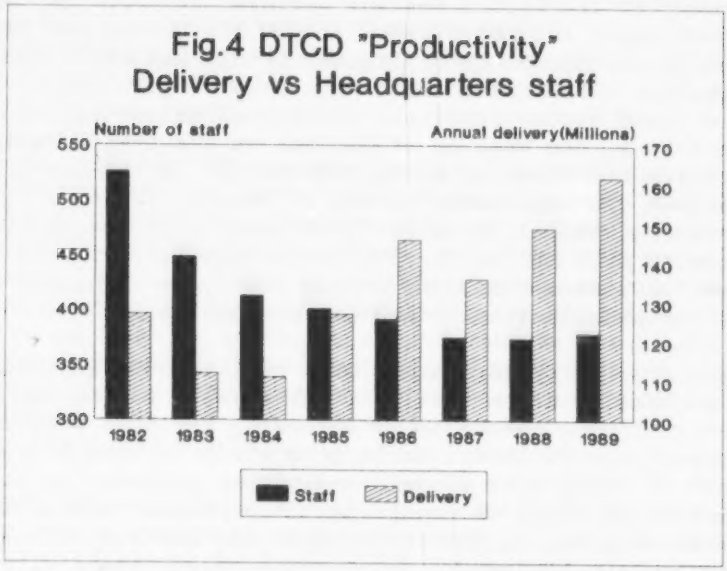
Fig.2 DTCD "Overhead" Earnings and Administrative Costs



Overhead earning on programme delivery

Fig.3 DTCD current year Project Budgets and Delivery





13. The following table shows the number of staff in DTCD from 1982 to 1989. Among professionals, 24 per cent of the staff were women in 1989. Talented younger staff, two of whom were women, were recruited from outside the Department to occupy nine posts at various levels. The Department continued to benefit from the services of associate experts financed by the Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Japan and the Netherlands which provided valuable support in several specialized areas.

Staff in DTCD a/

1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
526	448	413	401	392	375	374	379

a/ The staff reductions during 1982-1985 resulted in fewer staff at year's end than at the beginning of each year. To account for this, a median figure for the number of staff available has been used.

V. LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

14. As a Department of the United Nations Secretariat, DTCD is guided by the directives of the General Assembly, specifically its Second and Fifth Committees, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC), and the Economic and Social Council, including its technical committees. Accordingly, the DTCD substantive programmes are reviewed by the Committee on Natural Resources, the Population and Statistical Commissions, the Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance, among others. It is the Governing Council, however, that reviews the Department's work in detail, in the first instance, as indicated in Governing Council decision 89/50 which stresses the Council's role in providing guidance to DTCD in its operational activities. The following paragraphs therefore address the issues discussed during last year's Council session, and respond to the recommendations contained in that decision.

15. Programme and project performance. DTCD registered significant gains, as noted above, in increasing its overall effectiveness. On the one hand, the use of office automation equipment, enhanced by specially tailored programmes, increased throughout the Department in 1989, encouraging staff to take a pragmatic approach to the development of integrated project management systems for project monitoring. Prompter delivery of equipment to the field, and a study of work procedures aimed at simplifying the recruitment and administration of consultants, figured among the results achieved. On the other hand, there were efforts to extend the Department's outreach and to establish collaborative arrangements with universities, private institutions and other sources of expertise. Special missions were organized to accelerate the implementation of the training component. DTCD also took the lead at a United Nations system-wide meeting of senior fellowship officers, in the area of fellowship evaluation.

16. An important development was the authorization, given for the first time to DTCD, to provide management services - as a means of channelling supplementary assistance to developing countries. The management services which the Department can now undertake will range from programme project identification, formulation and implementation, to assistance in providing inputs for project monitoring or supervision; in contrast to traditional execution, they will not cover all stages of the project cycle. One such arrangement, initiated in 1989, involved assistance to a developing country in the procurement of equipment funded by credits from the International Development Association (IDA). ACABQ approved revised United Nations Financial Rules, patterned after those of UNDP, which will be an added help in this regard.

17. The process of consultations begun last year with departments concerned within the Secretariat, will be vigorously pursued in 1990, in accordance with the General Assembly's request, in its resolution 44/211, to simplify and harmonize procedures pertaining to all aspects of programme and project formulation and execution. The decision in 1989 to revise the Financial Rules to raise the financial limit - below which contracts may be awarded without resorting to formal bids or review by the United Nations Contracts Committee - already represents a small step in the direction of streamlining processes and procedures. In the same vein, project implementation could be further simplified by new measures to facilitate government

execution of individual components within projects executed by DTCD, to increase equipment procurement in developing countries, and to expand the delegation of authority to DTCD project personnel in the field. On the broader issues contained in that resolution, DTCD is collaborating with the Director-General to formulate an action plan for channelling United Nations technical expertise in the direction of government/national execution, and for providing greater technical support at field level.

18. On another front, special efforts were deployed in 1989 to intensify the participation of DTCD in mid-term country programming reviews, and to assist in the preparations for the fifth country programming cycle. Given its fields of competence, DTCD attaches particular importance to programming issues, both at the macro and the sectoral levels. There is growing interest within the Department in following a more integrated approach in order to arrive at more coherent and holistic programmes. Such an approach, by way of example, associates development planning with public administration and statistics, thereby developing national capacities in all facets of economic and social management including policy analysis on the basis of reliable data, effective management information systems and sound administration of development-oriented programmes.

19. Support for government/national execution. Support by DTCD to projects carried out by Governments cannot be measured solely by the level of project expenditures actually recorded. DTCD has often been involved in the formulation or design of projects subsequently slated for government execution. The fact remains, however, that, in financial terms, actual support to projects executed by Governments represents only a modest element of the overall DTCD programme. The momentum which government/national execution has acquired over the past two years underscores the urgency of devising an approach that will facilitate the use by Governments of the expertise available within the United Nations system, and maintained by Member States for that purpose.

20. For its part, DTCD has already tried, in a pragmatic way, to insert into traditionally executed projects a new dimension of training in the "process" aspects of technical co-operation. Cadres of the national recruitment services (NRS) in developing countries should facilitate project execution by helping Governments set up, or improve, their own recruitment services. Special workshops are also being convened to discuss the administration, management, monitoring and evaluation of projects, and a set of training manuals, to help build national project management capacity, will be published shortly. Even the fact that, wherever possible, fellowships and study tours organized by DTCD take place in developing countries helps to strengthen these host institutions.

21. Co-operation between UNDP and DTCD including round tables and NATCAPS, as well as in non-project types of assistance. DTCD collaborated with the Office for Project Services (OPS) of UNDP in organizing one NATCAP exercise (National Technical Co-operation Assessment and Programmes) - in Guinea-Bissau - out of the 19 such exercises ongoing in 1989. It was associated with round-tables meetings in a few other countries, for the most part in the implementation of follow-up projects in specific sectors. A basis for raising the level of co-operation in this area to the benefit of developing countries also exists in view of the

expertise of DTCD development planners, their experience with the preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Paris in September 1990, and the enormous range of other DTCD activities relevant to such exercises: public sector investment programming, financial planning and the formulation and implementation of human resources policies with linkages to macro-economic planning and economic adjustment programmes. In 1989, DTCD staff and experts were also involved in the management development programme (MDP) to the extent of carrying out diagnostic missions in five countries; MDP financing was made available to one project executed by DTCD.

22. Forces set in motion by the triennial comprehensive review of operational activities in 1989, have highlighted the value of collaboration between DTCD and UNDP. To date, for the most part, that collaboration relates to traditional project execution. In addition, financing from the UNDP project development facility (PDF) enabled DTCD to recruit outside consultants in 1989 and to undertake 19 project formulation missions, in contrast to 1988, when DTCD carried out only one such mission. Far less progress was made in promoting collaboration on matters connected to non-core funding or OPS. The record shows that DTCD signed only three new inter-agency agreements with OPS in 1989 (amounting to only $30,000). Overall in 1989, the services provided by DTCD to OPS totalled approximately $120,800 for seven projects. In October 1989, DTCD and UNDP senior management staff also exchanged letters stating that DTCD, to the extent applicable, would be governed by the Standard Basic Agency Assistance Agreement when serving as an executing agency of projects funded by UNDP.

23. Population related issues. The DTCD programme responds overall to the goals laid out in the World Population Plan of Action and reaffirmed in the Amsterdam Declaration. 1/ The targets of the Declaration - the integration of population into national development concerns and priorities, assistance in the design of population programmes, expanded co-ordination among the agencies working in this field, and strengthened capacity of developing countries to co-ordinate external inputs - are the mainstay of the DTCD programme. Lessons learned from the 1980 round of censuses guided the Department in building into the design of the next censuses special programmes in data analysis and dissemination. Considerable strides were made in building up national self-reliance and transfer of technology through human resources development. Skilled national experts took on greater technical responsibility, and teams of national consultants were constituted to work with the United Nations or national technical co-ordinators.

24. The Department welcomed the requests of UNFPA for assistance in the population programme review and strategy development missions, as well as in project formulation missions, and assigned DTCD technical advisers to serve as team leaders or co-ordinators for such missions where appropriate. The DTCD staff was involved in the subregional, regional and interregional seminars, conferences and workshops organized by UNFPA. The paper prepared by DTCD on a strategy to integrate women, environment and population into development - to ensure that these critical areas receive the priority attention required for balanced socio-economic growth - was the object of discussion at the UNFPA inter-agency consultation in March 1989. Contacts were established during the year with outside organizations such as the Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics, which was host to the DTCD international

workshop on population data base development, in order to broaden the range of expertise that can be made available to developing countries.

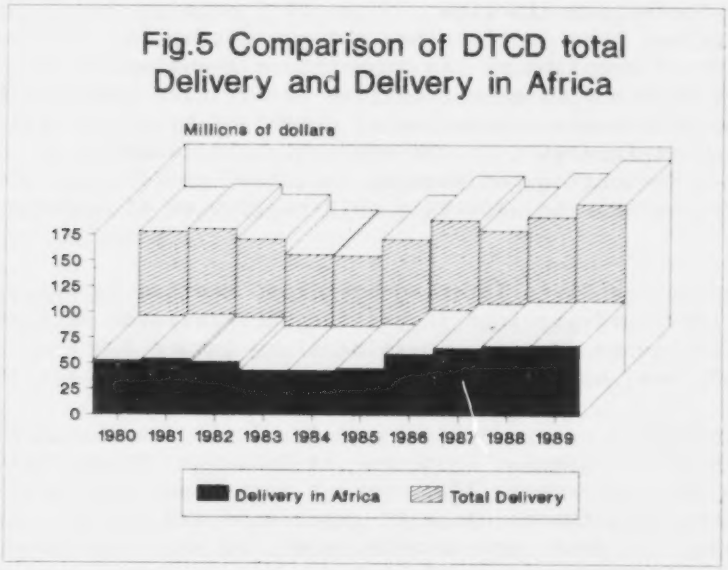
25. Data bank of project evaluation to improve feedback and enhance capacity of countries, and establishment of self-evaluation system (see also paras. 39 to 43 of the present report). Prior efforts to establish a data bank of project results were basically realized in 1989, and information has been entered to date on 79 in-depth evaluations, covering such elements as project problems and achievements, major recommendations, lessons learned and comments on the evaluation report itself. Feedback action is being recorded in the data bank and note taken of the extent to which the main recommendations of these evaluations are being implemented. The DTCD project self-evaluation system is based on UNDP project performance evaluation reports, prepared annually for all UNDP projects. Compiled by project management in the field, these evaluation reports are submitted for review to the three parties involved, and provide a comprehensive coverage of the information needed for self-evaluation. Thus, DTCD efforts are currently focusing on strengthening, rather than duplicating, the present system, particularly in respect to the issue of compliance. At present, self-evaluation for UNFPA projects is being introduced within DTCD on a selective basis. The DTCD staff also participated in the self-evaluation workshop organized by the United Nations Central Evaluation Unit in regard to the work which is funded from the regular budget of the United Nations or the Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation. The Department will continue to undertake self-evaluation of relevant sub-programmes.

26. DTCD took part in the Sixth Inter-Agency Group Meeting on Evaluation, held in Geneva in October 1989, and provided inputs for UNDP research activities, including the mid-term country review process, sustainability issues in the context of institutional development and project completion reporting and follow-up.

27. Support for technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC). As noted in section IX of the Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation, DTCD pursued efforts in 1989 to promote TCDC through workshops, seminars and training programmes that encouraged the exchange of experience and expertise among developing countries. To date, for example, over 100 nationals from developing countries have participated in an on-the-job training programme which enables junior statisticians from developing countries to work in the statistical offices of other developing countries. The Department also co-operated in 1989 with the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC in the preparation of the handbook which will be used by national and international officials concerned with TCDC.

VI. AFRICA

28. As indicated in figure 5 below, DTCD activities in Africa last year remained at the same level in dollar terms, as in 1988. Thus, the Africa programme in 1989 accounted for 42 per cent of the total delivery of DTCD, in comparison with 45 per cent in 1988. While Africa still represents the most important component of the programme, DTCD is concerned that, in coming years, the level of extrabudgetary funding may not be sufficient to ensure that African Governments will be exposed to the Department's technical expertise in such critical areas as human resources development. The Department hopes, therefore, that greater involvement with programmes such as NATCAPS and MDP, as well as some DTCD initiatives, which were financed out of the limited funds available from the Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation, will add a new dimension in the future to its involvement in Africa.



29. For DTCD, one of the most significant developments in 1989 was the start-up of work in Namibia. A mission sponsored by UNDP, which DTCD organized in collaboration with the Statistical Office of the United Nations, went to Namibia to estimate the size of the population and of the GDP. These figures may have to be revised, once an independent Namibia is in a position to strengthen its national statistical capabilities. In the mean time they provide a basis for establishing a tentative IPF. In addition, DTCD specialists carried out a preliminary review of Namibia's water sector and DTCD staff were seconded to the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG). The Department continued to assist the United Nations Institute for Namibia, and the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA) - which has trained over 750 Namibians since 1982, among them several of the newly elected members of the Constituent Assembly of Namibia.

30. In other parts of Africa also, renewed emphasis was placed on human resources development, including improved economic management. A seminar on this subject, organized by the institutes of public administration of Quebec and Tunis provided an opportunity for DTCD to hold a meeting at Tangiers, with the national directors and chief technical advisers of its public administration projects and to discuss new programmes and concepts in this area. Cross-fertilization of ideas and exchange of experience were also promoted at an interregional workshop, organized by DTCD in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), and attended by senior representatives from 31 African countries, as well as by personnel in development planning projects. An outgrowth of Africa Initiative (a regular programme activity described in earlier reports), the workshop dealt with the planning of financial resources for development, and focused on the practical aspects of economic policy-making, covering such issues as debt renegotiation and planning as a tool to attain long-term development goals in the context of structural adjustment programmes (SAP). In compliance with requests for follow-up sessions, DTCD will organize four more workshops, in 1990 and 1991, with funds from the joint Japan/DTCD-Africa Initiative through annual appropriations. These will concentrate on down-to-earth issues ranging from debt management to the integration of subnational and national planning.

31. Most of the 35 African countries with DTCD projects were interested in the applied, practical, facets of planning, covering public sector investment programming and/or monitoring. For example, a DTCD project in Sierra Leone on the planning, programming and implementation of public investment, is being reformulated to take into account the technical assistance needs arising out of the country's emerging adjustment programme. The process of institutionalizing government efforts in aid co-ordination is receiving help from another DTCD project which has some unusual features that may be useful in other countries. At the same time, DTCD has responded to the imperative of increasing productive employment opportunities for vast numbers of unemployed and underemployed and of promoting a more grass-roots, participatory approach to development, the key to raising the income levels of the rural poor.

32. Practically all DTCD projects in Africa made use of computer technology - to improve government budgeting, accounting and auditing; to strengthen the co-ordination and monitoring of external grants and loans; to exploit natural resources; and to analyse the demographic, social and economic data required both for policy formulation and for programme planning and implementation. Using the forecasting model SCOFLUX, for example, planners in Niger and Senegal were able for the first time to arrive at a quantitative assessment of both the short- and long-term effects of economic policies and adjustment programmes on the education sector.

33. Natural resources must be harnessed before economic and social development can take place, and DTCD has been at the forefront of mining exploration and promotion in Africa within the framework of UNDP-financed projects. In 1989, the accent was on the provision of legal and investment advisory services, to help draft or upgrade existing mining codes, and to assist during the negotiation stage of mining contracts - in response to the requests and priorities of Governments - in order to counter the decline in the proportion of GDP devoted to investment. A seminar was

organized in December 1989, in collaboration with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and financed from the Regular Programme, on mining exploration and investment potential in West Africa. It was also intended to improve the political risk perception of Africa in the international business community. DTCD continued to collaborate with the World Bank on an African mining policy study to analyse the impact of government policies on the performance of the mining industry in 20 selected sub-Saharar countries.

34. Investment promotion was important as well in the energy sector, particularly in regard to petroleum, along with greater use of cleaner solar and wind energy sources and more energy conservation. In the water sector, DTCD activities in Africa evolved from an earlier concentration on bore-hole drilling to more broadly based water resources planning and management, including training, maintenance and monitoring activities, as well as the development of software for measuring hydrological data. At the same time, however, in response to the emergency situation in Chad resulting from recurrent droughts, DTCD undertook a joint project financed by IPF/CDF (United Nations Capital Development Fund) to drill approximately 500 bore-holes over a three-year period and to train some 98 national project staff.

VII. INVESTMENT

35. As noted elsewhere in the present report, DTCD intensified its efforts in 1989 to assist Governments through investment related work. These efforts covered: (a) pre-investment projects, funded mostly by UNDP, aimed at preparing the groundwork for large-scale inputs from other sources; (b) encouragement of investment follow-up; and (c) participation in the technical assistance components of projects financed by the principal multilateral development finance institutions, including the World Bank and regional development banks.

36. The DTCD pre-investment projects included sectoral or geographic studies to identify investment needs and priorities, actions leading to specific investment decisions and support for the implementation and supervision of investment projects. They ranged from support in planning to legal drafting, to management and evaluation services, and even technical assistance in resolving disputes with foreign firms. Attention was being increasingly drawn to such work in order to emphasize the "downstream" linkages in the broader development context.

37. Investment follow-up involved the generation of new commitments from public, private, foreign and domestic sources. In 1989, roughly $1.2 billion of new commitments was recorded as a result of projects funded by UNDP and executed by DTCD. For the period 1982-1989, the total was over $11 billion, mainly in the areas of energy, minerals and development planning. Greater encouragement of investment commitments is the natural counterpart to greater attention to the pre-investment nature of many grant-financed, technical co-operation projects. DTCD is increasingly seeking to assist requesting Governments in making known to potential investors the prospects for such a follow-up.

38. Investment participation entailed the provision of services to Governments in the context of the financing they had obtained. Governments can call upon DTCD technical and managerial expertise through cost-sharing contributions under a UNDP-funded project, or through a management services agreement directly related to a loan or credit from the development finance institution. A recent example is a mineral exploration project in Yemen being undertaken partly through a UNDP/IPF project and partly through a management services agreement under a World Bank credit. Further opportunities are being sought to increase the leverage and benefits of development assistance, within DTCD fields of competence. The magnitude of the resources involved in all these aspects of investment work, and the importance of building strong linkages between the grant and the loan sides of development assistance from the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, make this a priority area of DTCD activity in serving developing countries.

VIII. EVALUATION

39. Over the past year, DTCD continued to strengthen its evaluation activities, and succeeded in carrying out 35 in-depth evaluations, compared with 22 in 1988. The total of 18 mid-term, 13 terminal and 4 ex-post evaluations involved the following substantive sectors: water (4); energy (3); infrastructure (3); minerals (7); development planning, including integrated rural development (4); population (4); public administration (5); statistics (4); and one project relating to women and development.

40. Most of the evaluations concluded that the projects were making significant contributions. Among the more noteworthy were the following. In Myanmar, despite severe difficulties and constraints, a project on computer development in the Central Statistical Office had a 90 to 95 per cent success rate in attaining its immediate objectives. Its performance was judged superior to the average UNDP project in this area and its results were comparable in quality to similar exploitations of information technology in a developed country setting. A cluster of five mineral projects in Mozambique was found to be of great assistance in promoting foreign investment and in negotiating with foreign organizations. In India, a project assisting the development of the Indian Railway Institute of Bridge Technology significantly enhanced the technological capability of the Institute and of the railways. A minerals investment promotion project in Bolivia put together a wealth of information on mineral occurrences which sparked renewed interest in the country's potential and led to the exploration of three deposits by private companies. In Equatorial Guinea, the project helped to establish a statistical office which plays an important role in that country's development. In Mali, the success of the household survey programme and other surveys led to a steady flow of reliable and integrated statistical data. Assistance to the National Energy Board in Ghana was praised for its results and cost effectiveness in comparison to similar projects in Africa. A regional project in Latin America to develop managerial capacity in the public sector generated substantial technical support and also had a positive impact on the institutionalization of the Latin American Center for Development Administration (CLAD).

41. The best of the evaluation reports clearly showed how positive and constructive such exercises could be from the technical and managerial standpoint, both for the project itself and for other projects. But DTCD saw the need for further improvement in a number of the in-depth evaluation reports. Not enough attention was being paid to the qualitative aspects of project design and implementation; the relevancy of the inputs and modalities used; the nature and scope of national capacity building; and the sustainability of the technical assistance provided. DTCD also believes that suggestions for follow-up action need greater specificity. The Department's evaluation office will be exploring different ways to improve the calibre of the reports on the basis of its experience in 1989, focusing in particular on briefing procedures and the consultant roster.

42. Lessons drawn from the in-depth evaluations in many instances simply reiterated earlier findings. Staffing problems - staff shortages, high turnover and frequent changes in national project management - remained stumbling blocks and affected project sustainability. Insufficient national resources to meet recurrent expenditures hindered government efforts to attract and retain qualified local staff and to cover the cost of fuel, maintenance, spare parts and the like. A number of reports noted the need for a project to establish linkages and to co-ordinate its activities with those of organizations and local bodies having similar or related objectives. Other reports stressed the need to synchronize inputs in order to improve project performance, and to involve nationals in designing and implementing the project's training component. Government commitment was once again deemed essential for successful project implementation and sustainability. Prospects for sustainability were enhanced when the project was placed within a body with strong leadership and corresponding political support. The reports found the degree of realism regarding the country's absorptive capacity, including the availability of national financial resources, to be a major determinant of project performance and sustainability.

43. The Department received good feedback in 1989 for most of the 22 in-depth evaluations undertaken in 1988. Eight of the projects were extended in accordance with the specific recommendations of the evaluations missions. Recommendations on issues such as the need to revise work plans, improve co-ordination and backstopping were implemented. Feedback for two projects, was limited as a result of inadequate government resources. In the case of six other projects, the recommendations were ignored, because of delays caused by one of the parties or owing to disagreement with the recommendations themselves.

IX. WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

44. The year 1989 saw increasing awareness in all sectors of the importance of women's participation in development, and the DTCD internal Task Force on Women in Development continued to deploy efforts to promote women through the vehicle of projects executed by the Department. It was generally recognized, for example, that village-level water projects do not succeed unless women are involved in the operation, maintenance and management of water resources facilities. By now, most DTCD grass-roots operations have components designed to teach women how to learn about, and benefit from, ongoing socio-economic development projects and

programmes. In Democratic Yemen, for instance, the participation of women in adult literacy and sewing classes organized by the community centres played a critical role in a DTCD project to improve the socio-economic conditions and living standards of the Bedouin population in general. The training provided to Bedouin women enabled them to acquire skills which increased their productivity and opportunities for employment.

45. Modalities were established in some countries to train women in social and economic development activities. Front-line development workers were assisted to work with women to increase their level of literacy and productivity. New project components were added to improve traditional technologies - fish smoking, cassava grating, poultry raising, water and transport of water and wood, etc. - to increase productivity and provide opportunities for employment and income-generation. Training in marketing and in business management techniques was an essential ingredient in the success of income-generating activities. Self-sustaining revolving loan schemes were also developed in certain countries of Africa to give women access to such funds.

46. Progress was made in 1989 in arriving at more complete statistics on women in development without which it is not possible to measure the success of any programme to integrate women. An extensive programme was developed to improve statistics and indicators on the situation of women; it includes improved statistical methods such as collection and dissemination at national and international levels, training and technical co-operation. Better statistics on women is now a target of the national household survey capability programme in some countries, to measure more fully women's participation in the economy. Advances were made in obtaining special tabulations by gender of demographic and socio-economic data collected through sample surveys and the decennial census. A first approximation of a microcomputer-based model on women in development, particularly in rural agricultural settings, was developed to demonstrate the impact of different policies and actions on women's social and economic progress. DTCD anticipates that it will be used not only as a tool to integrate women's concerns into national planning, but also as a teaching instrument, once the testing stage is complete.

47. DTCD remained actively engaged in the Task Force on Women and Water, which has drawn up detailed strategies to involve women in water supply and sanitation projects for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD), (1981-1990). A representative of DTCD was the keynote speaker at the Regional Training Programme on Women and Water Supply and Sanitation, convened by the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), at Bangkok, in June 1989. The Department also participated in the INSTRAW Consultative Meeting on Evaluation Methodology for Programmes and Projects on Women in Development. Government departments collaborating on projects and other national authorities were reminded to nominate women candidates for inclusion in the United Nations roster of experts and consultants and for training opportunities. Preparations were started for the ad hoc meeting to be organized by DTCD with the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) in conjunction with the 1990 NRS meeting to expand further the role of women in projects.

X. REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

48. The comprehensive guidelines approved by the Governing Council, in its decision 80/42 of 27 June 1980, and reconfirmed in its decision 86/16 of 20 February 1986, provide the basic framework for the use by DTCD of regular programme resources. In the course of its annual reviews, the Council has adapted these guidelines to meet new and changed needs, thereby preserving the distinct role of the Regular Programme in assisting developing countries through technical co-operation.

49. Strengthening national capacity, particularly through human resources development, has always been a main target of regular programme activities, but it took on new significance in 1989 as developing countries accorded the highest priority to human resources development. Training increased markedly and a record number of 600 developing country nationals participated in 1989 in workshops and seminars financed under the Regular Programme. These workshops addressed a broad cross-section of issues of central importance to developing countries including: public sector investment programming and management and financial resources for development; water quality management, and water resources management in small island countries and in drought-prone areas; mineral exploration and investment potential; wind and solar energy, energy conservation and power plant maintenance; management development training, performance improvement of public enterprises and corruption in Government; human resources training in the disability field and the development of national mechanisms for youth; the collection of trade statistics, disability statistics and demographic and social data; and social services for economic development. In conducting these workshops, DTCD took particular care to respond to the specific needs and interests of participating developing countries. Thus, participants were requested to prepare papers in advance, highlighting their country's experience and identifying specific areas where additional training and exposure to new approaches, methodologies and techniques would be needed. Wherever possible, training was of a "hands-on" and practical nature, and included on-site demonstrations.

50. Effective training also means use of up-to-date methodologies in the field. Considerable effort has therefore been invested to develop appropriate methodologies which take full account of the possibilities and constraints in developing countries, and are formulated on the basis of practical experience at country level. Such methodologies are used as training tools in workshops and during the course of advisory missions and field projects. By way of example, training packages developed during 1989 included the application of a micro-economic planning model for island economies, a software programme for public personnel management, an energy information system and software for production of energy balances. As might be expected, most of these involved the use of computers; hence the training included demonstrations on computers as well as practical exercises in applying computer programmes to meet individual needs.

51. Advisory services were another way of promoting human resources development. Many of these advisory missions were undertaken to help identify, formulate and obtain external financing for technical co-operation projects where the thrust essentially was human resources development. Other requests for advisory services

involved the need to improve institutional arrangements and strengthen indigenous training capabilities as a basis for enhancing human resources development.

52. The Department's work in human resources development and training underlines the role of the Regular Programme as a source of seed money. Contributions of both developing and developed countries serving as host countries for workshops and individual training programmes greatly augmented the overall training resources of the Regular Programme. Co-operation with developing countries is specially welcome since their experience has relevance to other developing countries. During 1989, over half of the training activities organized under the Regular Programme took place in developing countries which, of course, also promoted networking and TCDC.

53. Co-operation with other organizations further enlarged the scope of regular progamme projects, and made them more effective. DTCD co-operated closely with the regional economic commissions in training activities, for example with ECA in organizing a workshop on the planning of financial resources, and with ESCAP for a workshop on the establishment and development of national mechanisms for youth. Staff of the regional commissions participated in many other training activities. As noted in paragraph 6 above, a training programme for the application of microcomputer technology to energy planning was organized in collaboration with OLADE. Advisory services were provided on a regular basis to help evaluate World Food Programme (WFP) project proposals in the light of broad development planning considerations. The Department also continued to provide expert services to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to design and deliver a course on world development and international economic relations. There was close collaboration with UNCTAD for a workshop on trade statistics, and in the preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

XI. CONCLUSION

54. Looking towards the twenty-first century, DTCD foresees that the easing of tensions in many parts of the world may well generate new opportunities for international co-operation in the economic and social spheres. A vital element will remain: the need to support capacity building in developing countries - to support transfer of know-how, and thereby help developing countries achieve self-reliance by achieving better control over, and management of their national resources, human, physical and institutional. The Department's experience in this area - the work which it has begun in such countries as Afghanistan and Namibia, in LDCs and low-income countries, as well as its expertise and multi-disciplinary competence - will be at the service of developing countries to help them arrive at a more coherent overall framework for policy options and objectives, to improve the linkages between the social and the economic spheres and to strengthen their managerial and technical capabilities.

Notes

1/ Adopted at the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century, organized by UNFPA, in co-operation with the Government of the Netherlands, from 6 to 9 November 1989.

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UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES

Information on the technical co-operation programme of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

SUMMARY

The present addendum to the report on United Nations technical co-operation activities provides detailed information on the activities of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) of the United Nations Secretariat and includes a description of the work in its main substantive areas: development issues and policies; natural resources and energy; public administration and finance; statistics; population; and social development and humanitarian affairs. This report also includes information on DTCD programme support services, and work in conjunction with the World Food Programme.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In 1989, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) of the United Nations Secretariat had under execution 997 technical co-operation projects with total delivery of $162.8 million against current year budgets of $210.9 million. This addendum to document DP/1990/56 contains information on the substantive and managerial aspects of the work of the Department during the year. Data on project delivery are contained in document DP/1990/56/Add.3.

I. SUBSTANTIVE AREAS

A. Development issues and policies

2. DTCD executed 168 projects in development issues and policies in 1989 with delivery of $37.1 million in comparison with $33.2 million in 1988.

3. In 1989 the importance of development planning was highlighted as developing countries sought to maximize benefits from the resources available to them and to mitigate the social costs of economic difficulties, structural adjustment and retrenchment of government budgets and services. To meet these challenges, the Department has strengthened its expertise in directly applicable areas of planning such as public sector investment programming and international technical and financial assistance co-ordination. This includes the development of computerized information systems to improve monitoring and management of these areas and strengthened linkages between financial and overall macro-economic planning and management. In all areas of planning the Department's political neutrality as part of the United Nations Secretariat is increasingly valued by Governments seeking assistance in crucial and sensitive areas related to major policy issues and decisions.

4. Africa continued to receive the bulk of assistance in development issues and policies, with 43 per cent of 1989 expenditures. African countries were assisted in a broad range of planning specializations. For example, in Burkina Faso the focus was on investment programming and macro-economic forecasting models, in Equatorial Guinea on a strengthened national planning system, monitoring public sector investment programming and co-ordinating international aid. Guinea-Bissau was assisted in national macro-economic and sectoral planning and, with funding from the Special Action Programme for Administration and Management in Africa (SAPAM), in financial planning, as well as in aid co-ordination and integrated rural development. Assistance to the Niger and Senegal was for macro-economic forecasting models and computer-operated models linking human resources policies with macro-economic planning and economic adjustment programmes, while in the Comoros it was for planning under the Management Development Programme (MDP).

5. In most of the 35 African countries which received assistance in development planning in 1989, attention was given to public sector investment programming and/or monitoring. Another priority was international aid co-ordination, as in the cases of National Technical Co-operation Assessment and Programmes (NaTCAP)

programmes (Guinea-Bissau), international donors' round tables (Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau) and technical preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (Burundi, Comoros, Mauritania and Rwanda). DTCD has accumulated considerable experience and expertise in investment programming and aid co-ordination and in computerized information systems related to these areas. For example, with Regular Programme funding development began on a Public Sector Planning and Management Information System (PSPMIS) to strengthen linkages between national planning (annual or multiannual), annual budgets (development and recurrent) and public sector investment programming.

6. Government budget limitations and retrenchment affecting many African countries as a result of economic problems and consequent adjustment programmes have led to the need to strengthen economic management. Planning projects are meeting this need through increased use of national professionals and more operational, as opposed to advisory, international staff. National staff who have enhanced their expertise through a project in one country have been employed to assist other countries. For example, experience in projects in Mali and Senegal has thus been applied in other African countries.

7. In the Americas, Belize, El Salvador, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Saint Vincent were assisted in project data banks/investment programming, and Costa Rica, Mexico and Venezuela in co-ordinating international technical co-operation. The widespread use of national professionals and of interchange of experience between projects in the Americas has enhanced national capacities and maximized project benefits. With limited indicative planning figure (IPF) funds of the United Nations Development Fund (UNDF) available in much of this region, Governments have broadened the sources of financing for DTCD-executed projects, including funding from Norway and Sweden for a planning project in Nicaragua, and financing from the Inter-American Development Bank in El Salvador, and the European Community in Saint Vincent. In Panama, a critical poverty alleviation project has led to non-governmental organization (NGO) interest in funding innovative small-scale development activities.

8. In the Pacific, DTCD helped Tuvalu to establish a trust fund financed by international donors to enable the Government to meet its recurrent and development expenditures on a continuing basis. This is the first time that aid donors have pooled their resources to provide a long-term financial foundation for a developing country Government. With regular budget funding, work also continued in 1989 on macro-economic planning models designed specifically for the conditions of and application in small island developing countries. The Macro-economic Planning Model for Small Island Economies (MESIC), to be produced with training manuals, and the Regional Economic Model for Island Countries (REMIC) incorporate variables external to the countries' own economies.

9. In the environmental field, large-scale projects aimed at protecting the Black Sea coast and Danube regions began in Bulgaria with resources from UNDP and the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Co-operation and Seychelles was helped to incorporate environmental considerations into its national plan.

10. In the field of integrated rural and community development, assistance stressed participatory approaches and use of indigenous resources. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic a new project funded by the European Economic Community (EEC) and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) is helping disadvantaged rural population groups in remote regions to diversify their production and reduce their reliance on narcotic-producing crops, and in the Central African Republic and Liberia, multi-disciplinary village-level projects are providing training for diversified income-generating activities through replicable approaches. In all these projects there is a strong focus on increased participation of women in the development process. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic special attention is being given to mother-and-child care and to women's participation in development; in the Central African Republic assistance to women's groups includes training in income-generating activities, economic management and marketing; and in Liberia, development efforts introduce replicable techniques for reducing women's work-loads.

11. With Regular Programme funding, three interregional workshops were held on key aspects of development planning. In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, senior policy makers in planning and finance from Africa and Asia dealt with the planning of financial resources for development. Another workshop, held in Mendoza, Argentina, for the Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking countries of Africa and Latin America, was on public-sector investment programming and management, while in Tashkent, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, participants from Africa, Asia and the Americas covered national experiences of the role of social services in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes.

B. Natural resources and energy

1. Mineral resources

12. Total delivery for mineral resources projects executed by DTCD in 1989 was $15.2 million, up from $12.5 million in 1988. Most expenditures were in Africa and Asia. There were 120 advisory missions by DTCD technical staff in 1989, the same number as the year before. New requests for advisory services were mainly in mineral sector planning, programming, mineral exploration and processing, organizational strengthening, investment promotion and fields requiring highly specialized expertise.

13. Although the supply and demand imbalance in the minerals sector has been narrowing, most minerals experts expect that reasonably high prices will persist, as will interest in mineral development and mining. In 1989 interest in gold and other precious metals continued and increased in investment programmes, human resources development and efforts to attract private sector involvement in mining and technology transfer.

14. In Africa a number of projects have led to follow-up investment. In Mali, after an important project had identified some 2 million tons of reserves with a content of three grammes of gold per ton, the Government agreed to develop the surface gold mine at Syama with foreign investment. The project has also helped to

define several new gold deposits and has upgraded laboratories. Similarly, in Burkina Faso, following the discovery through a DTCD-executed project of the Perkoa base metal deposit, the Government agreed to develop it with foreign investment. A new project will verify and test geophysical anomalies detected through an airborne survey over the Perkoa area in 1988 to identify additional reserves. In Ghana, a project strengthening the State Gold Mining Corporation is in progress to allow the corporation to enter into joint ventures in developing the major gold mines of Ghana. Another project, near completion, assisted in the creation of the Minerals Commission, responsible for the co-ordination of all mining sector activities. A measure of success is the recent decision to invest new capital amounting to over $500 million in mineral sector development, including the Ashantee Goldfield. With DTCD support, various Governments have ongoing negotiations related to titanium beach sands, graphite, bentonite, semi-precious minerals and coal.

15. In Ethiopia a DTCD-assisted project helped the Government to identify several very promising gold deposits and assisted in the training up to the Masters degree level at the University of Addis Ababa. DTCD technical co-operation in the legal area also continues in relation to minerals sector investment, and a promotional brochure is to be prepared to describe the country's little known mineral potential.

16. In Angola, the Government requested renewed assistance for the rehabilitation of its geological survey and its capabilities to develop promising mineral resources, while another new project in the Niger will verify the potential of the Liptako-Gourma greenstone belts for base and precious metals.

17. In Somalia, a new project is to identify potential economic mineral targets and to assemble a technical portfolio for investors. Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania have also requested assistance for the development of their mineral resources, while at the subregional level, the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) requested assistance to evaluate its regional potential for bauxite, refractories and lime, as well as soda ash and related products. Projects in Togo and Gabon, while still at the exploration stage, have yielded gold mineralization results which have already attracted investment interest. In Cameroon, limestone potential is being evaluated in connection with cement production.

18. In the Asia region, a project got under way in China to establish a system of computerized exploration field data acquisition, processing and evaluation of mineral deposits and to strengthen the China Geological Information Centre and three geological teams that will be used as prototypes to disseminate modern methods of exploration evaluation throughout the country. DTCD will also help the Korean Institute of Energy and Resources (KIER) to set up a PC-based workstation for the interpretation of airborne geophysical data, and another new project is helping the Geological Survey of Malaysia-Sarawak to monitor and interpret data from an airborne geophysical survey of West Sarawak. In India a major project continued to strengthen and upgrade the Indian Bureau of Mines, while in Thailand DTCD is supporting the development of potash resources in the north-east.

19. In Pakistan, as follow-up to previous United Nations exploration projects and DTCD support in negotiations and investment promotion, a contract was signed with

the Chinese Metallurgical Construction Company for development of the Saindak copper/gold deposits in Beluchistan which entails a significant investment in foreign currency. Also in Pakistan, a major zinc/lead deposit was identified north of Karachi and a follow-up project to begin in 1990 will define reserves and assess the feasibility of mining them. Under another project in Pakistan, assistance was provided for negotiations for a gemstone joint venture agreement of a state mineral development corporation.

20. In the Arab States, Morocco was helped to set up a computerized system for mineral title management and DTCD is helping the Yemeni Joint Project for Natural Resources to manage airborne geophysical surveys and interpret satellite imagery for mineral resources evaluation. In Democratic Yemen the Government is being assisted in the formulation of a mineral exploration plan.

21. In the Americas, a project in Bolivia has evaluated over 17 gold prospects in three geological environments. Two companies are drilling for pre-Cambrian gold and three companies have entered into ventures with co-operatives for the development of gold identified by DTCD. Industrial minerals were also evaluated by DTCD in Jamaica and Paraguay and local industrialists are interested in developing resources in Jamaica. Japan and other countries are interested in setting up mini-plants for fertilizers possibly using the phosphate resources discovered and being evaluated by the United Nations project. In Haiti, negotiations for gold prospects, discovered and evaluated with DTCD assistance, are in progress with foreign investors. Investment is expected to be some $20 million. Additionally, world class calcium carbonates were evaluated and promotion will be carried out. Some companies have already expressed interest.

22. Two seminars were organized in 1989. The Belo Horizonte Seminar, held on 28 and 29 September in co-operation with the International Chamber of Commerce of Minas Gerais and UNDP support, trained Brazilian executives in joint ventures negotiations under new legislation. An Interregional Seminar on Mining Exploration and Investment Potential of West Africa (Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, 11-15 December), organized by DTCD and the Ministry of Mines of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire with UNDP support, facilitated the exchange of information and experience among West African countries relating to minerals sector development and investment.

2. Energy

23. DTCD delivery in the energy field during 1989 was $11.7 million, as compared with $15.8 million in 1988. A total of 33 advisory missions provided advice on energy policy, resource evaluation and exploration, project design and feasibility studies in the areas of petroleum, coal, natural gas, electric power, energy planning, energy conservation, geothermal, solar, wind and multi-source renewable energy packages, computerized data banks and microcomputer-based energy analysis.

24. In energy planning and policy, 1989 witnessed renewed interest in energy policy management. Less concerned over rising energy prices than in previous years, Governments were anxious to increase the efficiency of energy sector

operations, to reduce non-competitive pricing and to develop national staff capabilities.

25. An important interregional project executed in co-operation with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) addresses energy information and training requirements in the quantitative aspects of energy planning. It has created a United Nations/OLADE Training Centre equipped with microcomputers, projection systems and course material which will provide training in Spanish, English and French. A first pilot workshop was held in December.

26. In the energy conservation area, a project begun in mid-1989 is developing India's first national energy conservation auditing programme. In 1989 energy audit measuring equipment worth $100,000 was ordered and four energy vans are being constructed locally as prototypes for later mass production. In addition to industrial, transport and residential/commercial sector audits during 1990-1991, the project will assist in analysing the technical, legislative and institutional factors that will shape India's energy conservation effort. National experts will be used for half of all energy audits and regional competence in energy conservation will be promoted through the use of regional lead agencies.

27. Through its work in the energy sector, DTCD is providing practical means of reducing environmental problems in developing countries. For instance, geothermal projects in Bolivia and China (Tibet) are analysing the impact of geothermal fluid production on the environment and the feasibility and cost of reinjecting waste into reservoirs. In Bangladesh a project is reducing power losses and in China a pilot coal-fired power plant is being modernized; both projects will reduce air pollution. Energy conservation projects in India, Peru and Zambia are increasing the efficiency of industrial, transport and residential/commercial sector operations and lowering air and water pollution. In addition, small-scale hydropower projects are being promoted in several countries together with "cleaner" solar and wind energy projects.

28. While oil prices have declined since 1986, energy-deficient countries such as China and India continue to seek assistance for the development of indigenous energy sources to meet energy needs. In 1989, several petroleum sector projects reached their final stages with fruitful results. In China, new petroleum development technologies, such as well logging, sand control and polymer flooding, have been introduced to the major oilfields: Daqing, Shengli and Daqang. A strategy for the development of the onshore Nanbao Basin on the coast of Bo Hai was devised and excellent seismic data have been acquired in the topographically difficult carbonate basin in Guizhou Province using vibrioses techniques.

29. In India, two out of three projects which have been providing technical assistance in the last few years to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission were completed in 1989. Under one of these completed projects, pilots for the application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) techniques were designed and will be tested in a follow-up project. Under the other completed project, three-dimensional seismic surveys were run. The remaining active project has established the Institute of Petroleum Technology.

30. A strong focus of the Department's work in the energy sector is to strengthen national capacities, particularly in such areas as upgrading technical skills, decision-making, financial and economic analysis, negotiation techniques, legislation, and organizational structures. For example, in 1989 advice to Ghana and Nepal helped to strengthen their state petroleum corporations, while in Thailand a graduate programme in petroleum engineering was initiated at Chulalongkorn University.

31. In the conventional energy area, a regional project for the development of a computerized monitoring system for coal mining, both open-cast and underground, in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Turkey and Yugoslavia is in its third year. The project has established a network in these countries to co-ordinate research and development on such a system which will eventually include the monitoring of environmental impacts and automatic control of mining operations. In the next country programme cycle, DTCD will assist those developing countries with known coal resources to exploit them for power generation, while in countries now utilizing coal, the focus will be on conversion efficiency, environmental protection and mining safety.

32. With respect to electricity, the DTCD global large-scale power plant modernization (including fuel conversion) and rehabilitation programme is aimed at increasing the efficiency of power plants, thereby increasing the plants' outputs and operating reliability. Under this programme, projects are under way in China, Viet Nam, Guinea-Bissau and Angola; Nevis, Jordan, Thailand and Egypt have expressed interest in similar projects.

33. Regarding new and renewable energy resources, a new project is demonstrating, testing and promoting solar photovoltaic systems in western China. In Mongolia, a project is making solar, photovoltaic battery chargers for nomadic herdsmen, and another project entails demonstration production of portable wind battery chargers for nomadic herdsmen. This project is also demonstrating large biogas digester systems for farms. A project in Maldives has demonstrated solar photovoltaic lighting systems for public buildings and an agreement was reached with a private vendor to promote photovoltaic lighting kits for families. In Pakistan the fourth and largest solar photovoltaic village (50kW) is now operational. Progress continues on other solar and wind energy projects in Afghanistan, Cuba, Egypt, India and Romania.

34. New projects in geothermal energy include a three-year project in Tibet, China, to optimize power generation at the Yanbajain geothermal power station and to increase the geothermal fluid production of the field. It will also assess the reservoir capacity of the Naggu geothermal field with a view to installing a one-megawatt capacity binary cycle power plant and will explore a promising new area, Nyinzhong. Environmental protection is being taken into consideration in all these activities. The major geothermal project in Laguna Colorada, Bolivia, is approaching a successful conclusion with four deep geothermal wells drilled which produce enough fluid to operate a 5-MW demonstration plant to be installed in 1990.

35. To explore new fields of technical co-operation and exchange experiences gained in projects, seven international meetings were held in 1989: United Nations

Seminar on Petroleum Geology and Geochemistry: Problems and Prospects for Developing Countries (Kiev, USSR, 31 May-6 June); United Nations Seminar on Power Plant Operation, Maintenance, Rehabilitation and Distribution in the Arab Region (Amman, Jordan, 3-8 June); International Workshop on Wind Energy for Developing Countries (Roskilde, Denmark, 20-27 August); United Nations Seminar on Energy Conservation in Developing Countries (Stockholm, Sweden, 3-9 September); United Nations Seminar on Policy and Management of Petroleum Resources in Developing Countries (Oslo, Norway, 25-30 September); United Nations Symposium on Solar Energy Applications in Developing Countries (Lanzhou, China, 23-29 October); and United Nations Meeting on Marine Engineering Geological Survey for Petroleum Exploration in Developing Countries (Guangzhou, China, 30 November-6 December).

3. Water

36. Delivery in the water resources sector was $24.2 million in 1989 as compared to $19.2 million in 1988. During the year 117 UNDP-financed projects were being executed and 35 interregional advisory missions were sponsored under the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Co-operation, covering fields such as water legislation, water well drilling, computerized data management and hydrogeology.

37. The main activities of DTCD in the water resources sector have concentrated on improving rural water supply conditions through exploration and development of ground water, maintaining reserve water points for emergency use in water-short areas of developing countries and strengthening water resources planning capabilities at the national and river basin levels. Activities in water supply have evolved from an earlier concentration on borehole drilling to wider-based water resources planning and management, including training, operation and maintenance and monitoring.

38. Responding to the increasing demand for the transfer of high technology, DTCD is developing computer software and holding training seminars and workshops. At the same time, DTCD acts as a focal point for research and analysis of policy issues concerned with the water resources of developing countries and maintains a steady output of technical publications geared to their needs.

39. DTCD is also responding to increased requests for assistance in relation to preserving the environment in parallel with water resources development. The focus is on reducing water wastage and reducing demand to reasonable levels sufficient to meet human and development needs. One method used to attain these objectives is demand management policies which may entail a combination of economic incentives (water pricing), regulations for water use and legislation. Another is to encourage conservation through planning and strengthening of public policy and administration in an attempt to preserve existing water quality or reduce pollution of surface and ground water.

40. Strategies for identifying pollution sources, controlling water quality and promoting awareness and training have been initiated and tested in some projects. For example, in Brazil a project is attempting to restore polluted Lake Paranoa both by reducing the pollution load from Brasilia city and by studying inexpensive

pollution control methods for city use. One element of a water resources master plan being developed in Mozambique is the safeguarding of the lake providing water to Maputo. In Qatar a project examined the relationship between overpumping and sea-water intrusion into ground-water aquifers. In addition, an investigation was made of the rise in ground-water levels in an urban area owing to excess infiltration and storage of sewage water, and remedies were proposed.

41. There has been some effort by DTCD to engage women as agents of development in the water resources sector. Since women are the managers of water, sanitation and health in the household, it is now clear that village-level water projects do not work without the involvement of local women in the operation, maintenance and management of water resources facilities. It has also been found that the introduction of a reliable and accessible water supply has in many cases been the entry point for women to engage in income-generating activities. DTCD is actively engaged in the Task Force on Women and Water of the Steering Committee on Co-operative Action for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990), which has drawn up detailed strategies on the involvement of women in water supply and sanitation projects.

42. Almost all DTCD-assisted projects in this sector are increasingly using computers for storing and analysing data such as rainfall, run-off, river flows, lake levels and aquifer characteristics, and for modelling.

43. DTCD is in the process of developing hydrogeological software in Bermuda and Nepal. This user-friendly software consists of 10 packages and programmes which cover almost all needs related to normal hydrogeological studies.

44. Four major seminars on water resources were convened by DTCD in 1989: Interregional Seminar on Water Resources Management Techniques for Small Island Countries (Suva, Fiji, 26 June-1 July); Interregional Seminar on Water Quality Management in Developing Countries (Warsaw, Poland, 18-22 September); Interregional Seminar and Study Tour on Water Resources Planning and Management in Arid Areas (Tashkent, USSR, 17-25 October); and Interregional Symposium on Water Resources Management in Drought-Prone Areas (New Delhi, India, 27 November-1 December).

45. Most DTCD-assisted projects are aimed at improving the capability of national personnel and stress the sustainability of project results. For example, in Haiti, one project includes the recruitment and financing of five nationals at Government rates, and the Government is committed to continue to employ these nationals after completion of the project.

46. DTCD efforts in the water sector are also supporting Government-executed projects. In Morocco, DTCD is involved in a UNDP-funded project partly executed by the Government which entails the study of deep ground-water resources in selected areas. DTCD maintains some subcontracting responsibility related to mathematical modelling and provides technical advice to the Government in connection with the portion of the project which it executes.

4. Infrastructure: cartography, remote sensing and public works

47. In the fields of cartography, remote sensing and public works, there were 64 projects under execution during 1989 with total delivery of $9 million, as compared to a $9.5 million delivery in 1988.

48. Technical co-operation projects in cartography, surveying, mapping and hydrography included institution-building, transfer of technical expertise to national cartographic and hydrographic institutions and provision of training and equipment.

49. Fellowships and grants were awarded to candidates from all regions for studies in data processing, in photogrammetry, cartography/map compilation, cadastral and land information systems, geographical information systems, integrated digital mapping, geodetic science, map reproduction and map printing.

50. During 1989, the Infrastructure Branch of DTCD provided assistance in remote sensing to the Arabic-speaking countries and countries in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) region. This included advice on the feasibility of particular remote-sensing projects as well as assistance to resource managers in gathering data for locating, managing and monitoring natural resources. Advisory services clarified queries about training programmes in remote sensing, with a focus on the use of satellite remote-sensing data from new sensors, assessing the use of remotely sensed data and identifying remote-sensing requirements for natural resources development.

51. Projects in public works were funded by UNDP, including the United Nations Capital Development Fund, as well as by national, bilateral and other multilateral sources. They also included ad hoc contributions such as participation in World Food Programme (WFP) projects, short-term advisory missions and participation in tripartite review missions and country programming activities. Although some activities in 1989 involved the development of new physical infrastructure, the focus remained on the inspection, evaluation, rehabilitation, upgrading, maintenance and restoration of existing works.

52. New projects stressed training and the transfer of appropriate technology and related equipment. In this context, co-operation between the World Bank and DTCD resulted in a large programme to train Indian nationals in highway construction. Another project in Swaziland is providing training in roads development and is supervising the construction of 21 km of highway financed by an African Development Bank credit.

C. Public administration and finance

53. During 1989 the Department implemented 119 projects in public administration and finance, with a delivery of $20.8 million as compared with a $18.6 million delivery in 1988. Interregional advisers in public administration and finance undertook 47 missions, compared with 22 in 1988, in tax administration and resource mobilization, management development and training; government budgeting and

financial management, including accounting and auditing; public enterprise; and administrative reform.

54. With the adverse economic situation in many developing countries, the need to re-examine critical aspects of development administration and to improve management of the public sector has become urgent. The Department's public administration and finance programme has supported developing countries in redefining the role of the public sector and designing administrative policies, structures, systems and procedures to improve macro-economic management and promote human-centred development in accordance with their economic and social development objectives.

55. In the area of public administration systems and training, projects reflected broad concern for organization and management improvement, training and management development, personnel administration and human resources planning, public policy analysis and development, regional and local administration, and information management, including use of computers.

56. A number of projects were designed to support the streamlining and rationalization of government machinery through a comprehensive approach focusing on ministries centrally responsible for policy guidance, co-ordination, resource allocation and control. Support was also given to the development of evaluation machinery and methodology for assessing the impact of administrative reforms.

57. The public administration programme continued to assist developing countries in their quest to optimize the use of their national capacities through the organization of cadres and the strengthening of capabilities of central personnel agencies. A project in Bhutan assisted the Government in identifying the needs of the civil service in a human resources development master plan, strengthening the institutional capacity of the Royal Civil Service Commission and developing an integrated management programme for the civil service. Human resources development, the training of managers and technical personnel in the public sector and the upgrading of national training institutions were central thrusts of this programme. Efforts to increase the role of women in public management also continued.

58. Another important feature was assistance for the improvement of management information systems and increased use of microcomputers in government in order to make information more readily available to decision makers, managers and planners. For instance, projects in the United Arab Emirates provided assistance in computer applications for the administration of municipalities.

59. On behalf of the Management Development Programme (MDP), needs assessment missions were carried out to Cape Verde, the Comoros, Jordan, Kenya and Madagascar. DTCD also supported several projects developed under SAPAM and participated in the inter-agency task force responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Programme. A regional project provided assistance to the Latin American Centre for Development Administration (CLAD) which trained high-level public managers and supported critical aspects of State reform, the modernization of public policies, decentralization and social programmes and research applied to public management.

60. In public finance, the Department assisted Governments in improving resource mobilization, reducing public spending and reforming the public enterprise sector through training and management development, improved tax policy and administration, improved budgeting, accounting and auditing systems and procedures, and increased managerial efficiency and accountability.

61. Tax administration systems were strengthened in the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Malawi, Nepal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Republic of Tanzania through projects aimed at reforming personal and corporate taxation, rationalizing domestic indirect taxation, and expanding customs and excise tax bases. These projects contributed to improved tax assessment and compliance and collection capacity by broadening the tax base, simplifying the tax system and closing tax loopholes.

62. Projects to improve financial management were carried out in several countries. In Bangladesh, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Malawi and Uganda, modern budgetary techniques and systems were introduced or streamlined. In Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cyprus, Malaysia, Mauritius, the Netherlands Antilles, Sierra Leone and Yemen, projects focused on legislative accountability, administrative control of funds and government accounting and auditing.

63. Information systems strengthened public financial management in several projects. In China the transfer of know-how and training of personnel for the State Economic Information System were supported. In the Sudan, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning was helped to use modern information technology, while in Thailand information systems are improving managerial efficiency through timely support to the government decision-making process.

64. With the computerization of government financial management an ongoing process in most developing countries, in 1989 there was increased interest in advice on modern computer technology for government budgeting, accounting and auditing. In response to this demand, the Department is preparing a publication on computerization of government accounting in developing countries.

65. Many Governments are undertaking reforms to eliminate the financial losses and inefficiencies of public enterprises. In 1989 support to such reforms involved training of accounting and financial managers in Malawi, development of monitoring and performance evaluation systems in Bangladesh and Venezuela, and provision of computer equipment for management information systems and the exploration of divestment possibilities in a number of countries.

66. The Ninth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance was held from 14 to 23 March 1989. It covered major issues facing public administration and finance systems in developing countries, reviewed SAPAM, identified policy and programme actions to be taken at the national level and formulated recommendations to improve the effectiveness of public sector management. Other meetings organized were: Expert Group Meeting on Government Financial Management in Least Developed Countries (Nicosia, 1-8 November); Expert Group Meeting on Measures to Enhance the Capacity of Management Improvement Agencies in Developing Countries (Brussels, 11-15 December); Interregional Seminar

on Performance Improvement of Public Enterprises (New Delhi, 12-19 April); Interregional Seminar on Software Development for Public Personnel Management (Amman, 1-6 December); Interregional Seminar on Corruption in Government, organized jointly with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna (The Hague, 11-15 December); and Expert Group Meeting and Interregional Seminar on Management Development and Training Modules for Project Management in Developing Countries (Tangier, 15-16 and 18-22 December).

D. Statistics

67. During 1989, DTCD executed 196 projects in all fields of statistics and statistical data processing, including informatics. Delivery in this field was $28.4 million as compared with $21.3 million in 1988, of which 34 per cent was for Africa. Technical and interregional advisers as well as staff from the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat undertook 149 project-related or direct advisory missions to 84 countries.

68. The programme in statistics receives support from UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), bilateral donors and the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Co-operation. The programme supports the efforts of developing countries to strengthen and extend their national statistical services and capabilities. Specific fields of subject-matter include general statistics, national accounts, demographic and social statistics, trade, industrial and energy statistics and statistics on women and special population groups such as disabled persons. In 1989, work related to preparations for the 1990 round of population and housing censuses increased substantially, while other aspects of technical co-operation in statistics also increased or continued at about the same level.

69. Support to statistical data processing is increasing rapidly as developing countries become aware of the advantages of computers and packages in processing, compiling and tabulating as well as in analysing statistical data. In 1989, DTCD executed 152 projects in all fields of statistics which had a data-processing component.

70. Training remained a central aspect of technical co-operation in statistics during 1989. It included on-the-job training, international training through fellowship, study tours, workshops and seminars and local training of staff provided by the technical and interregional advisers. In addition to the training carried out under most projects, the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat organized six training workshops and seminars in 1989. Four were funded by the Regular Programme: Interregional Workshop of Large-Scale Demographic and Social Data Collection Activities for Small Areas (Bangkok, Thailand, 20-24 November), Training Workshop on Disability Statistics (Malta, 27 November-2 December), Training Workshop for External Trade Statistics (Accra, Ghana, 27 November-8 December) and Workshop on the Compilation of National Accounts (New York, 13-17 November). In addition, two workshops were organized with UNFPA support: Population Data Bases and Related Topics (Voorburg, Netherlands, 6-10 November) and Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (Nairobi, Kenya, 30 October-24 November). The Regular Programme also continued funding the

interregional project for junior statisticians and programmers and the training programme in the USSR in economic statistics and collecting and processing data.

71. Important support continues to an UNFPA-funded project for population census training in sub-Saharan Africa with multilateral support from Canada. National and subregional courses provided under this project are organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) while international fellowship courses are organized with Statistics Canada.

72. A major interregional project executed by DTCD at the global level as an interregional project is the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP). Co-sponsored and/or supported by the United Nations, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the regional commissions, the NHSCP is aimed primarily at the development of household survey capabilities in developing countries as a means of collecting demographic, social and economic data required for policy formulation, planning, programme implementation and evaluation. Unlike many internationally-supported survey programmes, NHSCP supports countries' efforts to develop survey programmes to meet their own needs, according to their own perceptions and priorities. At the end of 1989, 36 developing countries were participating in the programme and 40 missions were undertaken by the Central Co-ordinating Unit to provide advisory services to existing programmes or to help formulate new ones. It is expected that by 1991, 45 countries will take part. NHSCP, in collaboration with the League of Arab States, provides substantive support to the Pan-Arab Project for Child Development (PAPCHILD). This project, funded primarily by the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND), the United Nations and UNFPA, enables the ministries of health and social affairs, national child welfare councils, and research and policy institutions to obtain reliable data to formulate, implement, monitor and evaluate maternal and child care, health and development policies and programmes in a cost-effective manner. Two workshops related to the PAPCHILD project were held in 1989. NHSCP has also been developing sound collaborative arrangements with the World Bank in connection with the Bank's Social Dimensions of Structural Adjustment project, which includes a permanent household survey programme for the measurement of living standards and a study of the social implications of structural readjustment programmes.

73. An interregional project was established with UNFPA assistance in mid-1988 to support the development of national data bases on women, population and development. Missions were undertaken to several countries to assist in project development. As a result, funding for two country projects, in Cape Verde and Kenya, was secured and work is under way. The interregional project also provided for presentations by advisers and experts of the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat at a number of meetings and conferences.

74. A handbook on national statistical data bases on women and development will be published in early 1990. Under NHSCP, Bangladesh and Pakistan have placed special priority on the improvement of statistics on women, in particular the measurement

of women's economic activity. Both countries have now developed surveys to measure more fully women's participation in the economy.

75. The Software and Support for Population Data Processing project, funded by UNFPA, continued to provide computer technical support and assistance to developing countries during 1989, through the development and distribution of software and organization of training workshops in software for editing and tabulating data, demographic analysis and population projections, and ad hoc assistance to UNFPA-supported population activities. Over 600 data processing and demographic software packages were distributed in 1989 and 18 training workshops were conducted during the year.

E. Population

76. In 1989 DTCD executed 109 projects in this sector with a total delivery of $9.6 million as compared with $9.4 million in 1988.

77. In the area of human resources development, 53 projects were implemented in 40 countries. The Department continued to sponsor international training through the Cairo Demographic Centre and the United Nations/USSR Interregional Training Programme in Population and Development. Two workshops were organized: the International Training Workshop on Microcomputer Applications for Population and Development in Hungary and the International Workshop on Population Projects in Poland. A total of 136 persons (40 per cent women) from 99 developing countries were trained in these international training programmes. In addition, fellowships were awarded at non-United Nations-sponsored institutions.

78. Skilled national experts assumed a greater technical responsibility for projects in 1989. This trend went hand in hand with the emphasis on national training programmes in population through universities and workshops, seminars and ad hoc courses for non-academic audiences. Most programmes in population have now been upgraded to programmes in population and socio-economic development, and microcomputer technology has become an important part of all teaching and research programmes. The increased availability of graduate-level training in developing countries had much to do with the fact that most project management in a number of projects was the responsibility of national personnel. Multiplying the benefits of this national-level training through Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC), African countries exchanged teachers, researchers, computer experts and librarians, country-specific publications and other relevant documents.

79. In preparation for the 1990 round of population censuses, vigorous efforts were made to upgrade skills at different levels of statistical offices through national, regional, interregional and other international technical co-operation programmes. There was greater demand for fellowships for training in computer software applications for demographic analysis, integration of population into development and population policy formulation.

80. In the area of population dynamics, 43 projects were implemented in 38 countries. Major emphasis continued to be on the evaluation and analysis of data

from the 1980 round of population censuses and demographic surveys and on guidelines for the analysis of data from the 1990 censuses. In co-operation with ECA, the Department organized two workshops in Ghana and Liberia to train African demographers and planners in the use of microcomputers for tabulation and analysis of census data. In addition, technical support was given to the Governments of Angola, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo and Zaire for the evaluation and analysis of data from the 1980 round of censuses.

81. To strengthen national capabilities in demographic analysis, new approaches were developed and successfully applied in many countries. These include: use of a team of national analysts from government agencies and institutions working with United Nations or national technical co-ordinators; use of microcomputers for analysis and report preparation; training in the use of microcomputers for demographic analysis and population projections; post-census analysis and dissemination of the results through seminars for data users and producers; and extensive publication of results and their distribution to users. These strategies were successfully applied in Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, China, Guinea, Liberia, the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire and Zambia, and are in progress in the current analyses of the censuses of Ghana, Sierra Leone and Somalia.

82. With the need for analysis of census data well established by previous population census rounds, the Department is helping developing countries to incorporate programmes of data analysis and dissemination into the 1990 population census design. A more comprehensive programme of assistance in evaluation and analysis will be proposed along the lines provided for the 1980 census rounds and utilizing the human resources and expertise already developed in the countries.

83. In population policy and development planning, 35 country projects were implemented in 25 countries, primarily in Africa. A number of projects in Asia and Latin America were also assisted by DTCD, often without the services of resident experts. Activities include studies on the interaction of population with social and economic development factors and the formulation of population policies in development planning at national, regional and sectoral levels.

84. The services of resident advisers in population-and-development and short-term consultants for specific topics were provided. Training has been greatly reinforced through short courses for national staff and in-service training, mostly in techniques to integrate population variables into development planning and the use of population and development models and related microcomputer software.

85. While progress in the integration of demographic variables in the planning process was significant in some countries in 1989, it has been relatively slow in others, owing to the paucity of reliable data. In most developing countries, the importance of population and the need to define population policy in the context of development have generally been recognized. Integrated maternal child health and family planning programmes have been increasingly accepted by Governments and the general population.

86. In 1989, concerted efforts were made to include women's concerns in all population projects assisted by DTCD. Counterpart government agencies and national authorities were asked to pay added attention to women candidates for all relevant training opportunities and to include qualified women candidates in the United Nations roster of international resident advisers and consultants for project vacancies.

87. Progress was made in obtaining special tabulations by sex of demographic and socio-economic data collected through sample surveys and censuses. A microcomputer-based model on women in development, especially in rural agricultural settings, was developed. As empirical data become available, the validity of the model will be tested and it will be appropriately modified.

F. Social development and humanitarian affairs

88. During 1989 the United Nations Office at Vienna/Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (UNOV/CSDHA) provided substantive support on behalf of DTCD to $1.5 million of projects concerned with the well-being of specific social groups and with social development policies and programmes, as compared with $1.2 million in 1988. A major characteristic of the projects is their focus on building national capacities and developing institutional capabilities for social progress and development.

89. Special emphasis is on Africa in view of its critical social and economic situation. For instance, in Somalia assistance is being provided to develop the new secretariat for the National Council on Social Welfare, established to link public, private and voluntary efforts to improve the well-being of specific social groups. An innovative feature of the project is the effective use made of UNOV/CSDHA-administered trust funds by national project management to organize during 1989 the first national workshop on youth and to introduce training in income-generating activities in rehabilitation services for disabled persons.

90. Promotion of disabled persons through appropriate national institutions is an important area for technical co-operation in the social field. Assistance is being provided to Guinea and Mauritania to develop national centres for rehabilitation of the disabled. Organizations of disabled persons in both countries have received grants from the UNOV/CSDHA-administered Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons to carry out leadership training of disabled persons. In Djibouti a new project co-financed by UNDP, AGFUND and the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons seeks to strengthen national capacities for disability prevention, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities. These experiences suggest that judicious use of extrabudgetary resources within the framework of the UNDP country programme can mobilize critically-needed resources from many sources for social progress and development.

91. Interregional exchanges have facilitated the transfer of appropriate disability technologies and the building of networks among interested centres and institutions, particularly in developing countries. Resources from the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Co-operation financed the International

Meeting on Human Resources in the Field of Disability (Tallinn, USSR, 14-22 August 1989), which developed the "Tallinn Guidelines for Action on Human Resources Development in the Field of Disability" later endorsed by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session (resolution 44/70, annex).

92. Resources from the United Nations Regular Programme for Technical Co-operation continue to play a key role in building national capacities in other areas of social concern as well. These resources co-financed, with the UNOV/CSDHA-administered United Nations Youth Fund, the International Meeting on Establishing and Developing National Machinery for Youth (Bangkok, 8-12 November 1989), attended by senior policy makers, planners and scholars from 20 developing countries, which developed "Guidelines on establishing and developing national co-ordinating machineries in the field of youth" for use by policy makers, planners and administrators.

93. The United Nations Regular Programme resources also financed the Interregional Seminar on Statistics and Indicators on the Social Situation of Families (Yalta, USSR, 5-15 December 1989), which was organized with joint substantive backstopping from UNOV/CSDHA and the Statistical Office of the United Nations. The seminar report, which provides guidelines for the collection and analysis of data related to family issues, will be issued as a technical publication.

94. The need for advisory services continued to grow steadily during 1989 as evidenced by an increasing number of requests received and advisory missions undertaken. DTCD interregional advisers on youth policies and programmes and on crime prevention assigned to UNOV/CSDHA provided on request high-level advice and assistance on policy design, programme formulation and evaluation through 26 missions to 16 developing countries.

95. In addition, Regular Programme resources of DTCD enabled UNOV/CSDHA to respond quickly and efficiently to a number of requests for short-term advisory services in the social field to Cameroon, Ghana, Iraq, Paraguay, Tunisia, Uganda and Yugoslavia.

II. SUPPORT SERVICES

A. Technical assistance recruitment and project personnel administration

96. The 1989 delivery for project personnel was $82 million as compared with $74.6 million in 1988. Africa led the increase with 44 per cent of the total ($36.1 million), followed by Asia and the Pacific with 18 per cent ($14.9 million), the Middle East with 15 per cent ($12.2 million), interregional with 12 per cent ($9.6 million) and the Americas with 11 per cent ($9.2 million).

97. Developing countries continued to demonstrate discriminating abilities in specifying the assistance they needed. As in 1988, more than four out of five technical co-operation personnel fielded were short-term and high-level consultants. Many of these were eventually identified, and their services specifically requested by recipient countries.

98. As in 1988, expertise in the physical sciences was supplied mostly by the economically advanced countries. Developing countries had comparatively better opportunities in providing expertise in the behavioural fields including public administration, population management, social development, economic development planning, and statistics. Overall, 63 per cent of recruits came from the developed countries.

99. DTCD organized the first international workshop for the training of senior cadres of national recruitment services (NRS) pursuant to the recommendations of recent biennial NRS meetings, including the eleventh in 1988. Its aim was to provide senior officers of NRS in developing countries with opportunities to observe the operations of similar institutions in economically more advanced countries, to analyse them and to ascertain lessons from operations that would be useful to developing countries in organizing new NRS or improving existing ones. The longer term goal was to help increase the recruitment of experts and consultants from developing countries in United Nations technical co-operation programmes. The Technical Assistance Recruitment and Administration Service (TARAS) and the Technical Assistance Recruitment Fellowships Office (TARFO) of DTCD will formulate appropriate guidelines for use by developing countries in the organization and management of their NRS.

100. Co-operation with NRS continued along both traditional and new lines. The use of facsimile communications with NRS enabled the Department quickly to obtain suitable candidates for posts under urgent recruitment. Recommendations of the 1988 NRS meeting were reviewed and considerable efforts made to implement them.

101. The Department collaborated with the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) in planning a special meeting to analyse and expand the role of women in technical co-operation projects, as recommended by the 1988 NRS meeting. DTCD offered to ICSC the opportunity of utilizing part of the 1990 NRS meeting for the special meeting on women.

102. Efforts to improve internal operational activities continued. A study was made of methods to simplify procedures for special service agreements, including the elimination of unnecessary and redundant activities, reduction of forms in use, and the promotion of lump-sum special service agreements, all of which were expected to reduce significantly administrative support costs. Reimbursable loan arrangements with companies for the services of experts and consultants were also reviewed for possible improvements. TARAS likewise initiated the compilation and updating of written procedures for recruitment and administration. Receipt of a small number of personal computers enabled TARAS to start the computerization of recruitment and administration activities of a limited number of staff members, and the immediate rostering of individuals found suitable for technical assistance project posts.

103. The innovative thrust in TARAS administration was pursued with a comparatively slimmer personnel complement. As in recent years, somewhat stabilized project budgets required more recruitment activities owing to the shift into more short-term consultant services, and more intensive administrative action dictated by the stress on a more responsive system of project execution. These efforts

shortened recruitment periods and generally made administrative operations cost-effective.

B. Contracts and procurement service

104. In 1989, DTCD issued purchase orders and contracts for the total amount of $46.5 million compared to $39.1 million in 1988. Purchase of equipment accounted for about 85 per cent of the total value; the remaining 15 per cent was for the provision of services. In 1988, the respective rates were 82 per cent and 18 per cent. By value, about 32.2 per cent of all purchase orders and contracts issued in 1989 was placed in developing countries, slightly more than in 1988.

105. Further improvements were achieved in the application of the on-line computerized tracking system. This system, which monitors shipments from vendors' premises to final destinations and compares scheduled versus actual delivery, shipping and arrival dates, has substantially reduced delivery time to the benefit of the field projects. In addition, more systematic use at substantive, operational and programme support levels of reports generated by the Automated Purchasing and Payment System (APPS) has reduced lead times and enabled the timely processing of procurement requests.

106. DTCD continued its co-operation with the Inter-Agency Procurement Services Office (IAPSO) and participated in the Fourteenth Inter-Agency Procurement Working Group held in Stockholm, Sweden, in April 1989.

C. Training

107. Expenditures for fellowships and training components amounted to $29.0 million in 1989. Asia and the Pacific had the largest share of expenditures, 38 per cent or $11.2 million, Africa had 35 per cent or $10.1 million, the Mediterranean, Middle East and interregional programmes had 23 per cent or $6.6 million, and the Americas had 4 per cent or $1.1 million.

108. A total of 4,045 training awards were implemented in 1989, including fellowships, study tours, seminars and workshops, as compared with 4,141 in 1988. Nationals of 154 countries were trained. Most placements were made in the United States of America, followed by the Congo, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and India. Resources of developing countries were utilized as much as possible in the training and over half of all trainees were placed in developing countries, a total of 2,146. DTCD has continued to give particular attention to women and 835 female trainees received DTCD awards in 1989.

109. The Department continued to co-operate with the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA). In 1989 contributions and pledges amounted to $4,766,994, a slight increase over the previous year. The Programme continues to emphasize training at technical and first degree level in Africa. During this reporting period, UNETPSA sponsored 1,208 South African and Namibian students world wide, over half of whom are women. The Programme continues to co-operate with

scholarship agencies, NGOs, and educational institutions in co-sponsorship arrangements. In preparation for Namibia's independence, UNETPSA has trained over 750 Namibians since 1982. Several of the newly elected members of the Constituent Assembly in Namibia undertook studies under UNETPSA. The Programme undertook an evaluation in September 1989, the recommendations of which will be implemented starting in 1990.

110. As a result of the arrangement of Mutual Co-operation signed between DTCD and the Provincial Government of Quebec in 1988, four fellows were granted a tuition reduction to undertake graduate studies in the Province of Quebec.

111. The Technical Assistance Recruitment Fellowships Office (TARFO) of DTCD in Geneva, which is responsible for placement and administration of fellows and study tour participants in Europe, acted on 1,079 fellowships in 1989. As the inter-agency focal point on fellowship matters, TARFO hosted the biennial inter-agency Meeting of Senior Fellowship Officers in November, where it took a lead role in co-ordination of fellowship evaluation. TARFO continues to issue the annual Directory of Training Courses and Programmes, which provides authoritative and comprehensive information on development training facilities in Europe and neighbouring areas, with emphasis on training facilities for TCDC.

D. Financial management

112. The use of office automation equipment continued to be a priority in 1989 to achieve greater efficiency and accuracy in the financial management of technical co-operation projects.

113. A new applications programme which simplifies the updating and production of budget documents on personal computers was developed early in 1989. The Financial Management and Budgetary Control Service (FMBCS) installed this applications programme in the personal computers in substantive divisions of DTCD and periodically updates the data bases to provide users with the most recent information on authorized project budgets in the DTCD Project Management System master file. Training on the new system was provided by FMBCS to staff. Maintenance of the applications programme on personal computers will continue until installation of a local area network (LAN) capability.

114. Preparations are under way to establish a LAN in FMBCS. The network will link several personal computers to a file server and permit users to access and edit data from any personal computer in the LAN and to download from the mainframe. Arrangements will also be made to transmit mail electronically within the United Nations system.

115. The downloading of financial data from the mainframe to personal computers as well as the sharing of data applications from other systems will significantly decrease the volume of reports produced in hard copy and provide management with more up-to-date information on project and programme budgets and implementation.

E. Reports

116. In 1989 the DTCD Reports Unit processed 114 documents. There were 58 project reports including 39 agency terminal reports, 8 technical reports and 11 seminar reports covering the range of departmental fields of activity. Of the 39 agency terminal reports, 17 covered countries in Africa, 17 in Asia, 4 in the Americas and 1 in Europe. Six non-project documents were also processed. A significant new development was the high number of documents translated (50). Of those, 19 were for the Tashkent Interregional Seminar on National Experience in Achieving Far-reaching Social and Economic Changes for the Purpose of Social Progress (5-13 December) and 14 for the Addis Ababa Seminar on Strengthening the Institutional and Managerial Capacity of African Countries in Development Planning (27 November-1 December).

117. Some 305 documents were accessioned and entered on the computerized data base of the Information Systems Unit, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. Derestriction requests were received for reports listed in the Development Information Abstracts which were issued every two months by that department; the responsibility for the issuance of those abstracts was transferred to DTCD effective 1 January 1990.

III. WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

118. During 1989 the experts and consultants of DTCD were closely involved in formulating and appraising 27 developmental food aid projects valued at $540 million in 23 countries. Three experts/consultants of the Department also took part in evaluating the development impacts of food aid projects in three countries.

119. Since the establishment of the World Food Programme (WFP) under the joint responsibility of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 1962, large quantities of multilateral food aid transfers have been made through the Programme. These transfers were made not only for alleviating human tragedies stemming from recurrent droughts and emergency operations but also for promoting rural development initiatives through food-for-work activities. In these instances food is used as incentive or part payment of wages to promote agricultural and rural development, the construction of infrastructures such as rural roads, water wells and water catchments and irrigation canals; the education of school children as well as the promotion of rural literacy programmes and vocational training.